

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
High Performance Schools Grant Program
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
JULY 6, 2001

Question 1

Would you be so kind as to e-mail the answer to this question: What type of buildings are eligible for this grant? Are existing campuses eligible (the whole existing campus?)

Received 6/12/01

Answer 1

The target of the grant is new buildings, preferably an entire campus such as when you are building an entire school. Major additions to schools, such as adding a new wing to an existing facility could also be eligible, whereas minor additions such as only adding a cafeteria or a gymnasium would not be. Renovations/remodels also would not generally be eligible.

If you keep in mind that the purpose of the grant is to build 2 schools that embody the principles of High Performance Schools and qualify for Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) status, the foregoing makes sense. As an example, one of the criteria is for the new facility to outperform the newly effective Title 24 energy performance standards would be very difficult to achieve in a renovation, whereas it is achievable for a new design.

Please visit our website at: <http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/schools/> there you will find additional information on high performance schools and the HPS Program Opportunity Notice. Also note that the link to the application form for the HPS Grant Program is located on the bottom of the Program Opportunity Notice, where it is available as an Adobe (pdf) file

http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/schools/HIGH_PERFORM_APPLICATION.PDF or as Microsoft Word (doc) file

http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/schools/HIGH_PERFORM_APPLICATION.DOC

Response 6/14/01

Question 2

Are private schools eligible for the HPS Grant Program?

Answer 2

Yes, all schools k-12 are eligible for the HPS Grant Program. Please see #1, above for additional details.

Question 3

I am an architect in Sacramento and am currently working on a new middle school. We applied to the Bright Schools Program. At the time, there was no other application process available.

We are participating in the Bright Schools Program and are currently in the Construction Document phase of the project. We are on track to exceed Title 24 by 20%.

I would like to verify that the application due July 9th is for the same program and that we will need to submit this application in order to be considered for the grant.

Also, our school is shooting for an opening date of fall of 2003, but we are concerned that the short building season at our location and the present long plan review time at DSA may delay our opening until 2004. Will these factors, which are beyond our control, impact our eligibility for the grant?

Answer 3

Yes, you will have to submit an application for your school, which is due on July 9, 2001. There is no other HPS Grant Program at the Commission. Our process requires that applicants submit a structured Application form, which is screened for qualifying criteria and then evaluated and ranked against other applicants. You may download this Application from <http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/schools/>. Please note that the link to the Application form is buried at the bottom of the Program Opportunity Notice.

I want to congratulate you on being on track for exceeding Title 24 energy performance standards by 20%. Please be aware that these standards changed on June 1 of this year. Also please be aware that grant award recipients commit to working with the CEC staff and its consultants. This is a requirement for receiving the grant.

I can't give you a clear answer regarding your question on the operational date of the project. The source of these funds is DOE and it is DOE that would have to agree to an extension beyond the grant period. DOE has been flexible in the past on these matters, but that is no indication that they will continue to be flexible.

Question 4

We are in the process of building a new middle school. The plans have been in DSA for about a month. In this new school we have included plans that will help us reduce our energy costs. We will be using daylighting as much as possible and we are looking into solar panels that will generate energy and when we are not using the energy it will go back into the utility company electrical supply. My question is, since we already have our plans into DSA we are not eligible for the High Performance School Grants but are there other grants we can apply for that will help us pay for some of the energy efficiency we are incorporating into this new school?

Answer 4

You are correct, unfortunately your school is too far along the process to qualify for the HPS Grant program. However, there are at least three other Commission programs for which you may qualify. These are:

- Cool Roofs <http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/schools/index.html>
- Bright Schools <http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/schools/index.html>
- 3% Energy Financing <http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/financing/index.html>

Additionally, I want to encourage you to go to the Commission's "Consumer Energy Center" website (<http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/>) and look in the section "Rebates, Grants and Loans". There you will find a database that contains links to the Commission's and utilities' grant and loan programs.

Question 5

Are public schools eligible for the HPS Program?

Answer 5

Yes, both public and private schools are eligible for the HPS Grant program. Since private schools are privately funded, the requirement regarding submission to the Department of State Architect (DSA) doesn't apply. Keep in mind, however, that part of the intent is for the Commission staff and its consultants, to participate and influence the design process.

Question 6

Can grant funds be used towards design or are they restricted to hardware?

Answer 6

The grant is not restricted to what you can spend the money on. It can be for any purpose: hardware, design, consulting, even land.

Question 7

Who can apply for the grant? Who receives the grant monies?

Answer 7

Only the owner is eligible for the grant. While the Architect, Project Manager, Construction Manager, etc may make application on behalf of the owner, payments will be made to the owner.

Question 8

Where are the HPS projects that have been built/are projected to be built?

Answer 8

Please see the following table

Grant Sponsor	Project Name	Level	District	Climate Zone
PG&E	Black Middle School	K-8	Los Altos	3
PG&E	Peach Street School	K-8	Manteca	12
SDG&E	Not known at this time	K-8	Solana Beach Union School District	7
SDG&E	Serrano Hills Elementary	K-8	Delmar Union	7
SCE	Western Christian	K-5	Private School, Covina	10
SCE	Newport Coast Elementary	K-6	Newport Mesa Unified	8
SCE	Pomona High School	9-12	Pomona Unified	10
SCE	TBA	9-12	LAUSD, Huntington Park	9
SCE	High	Demo	SCE, Irwindale	9

	Performance Relocatable Classroom			
SoCalGas/LADWP	Central LA Area High School Area 10	9-12	LAUSD	9
CEC I	TBD		TBD	TBD
CEC I	TBD		TBD	TBD

Question 9

Should we submit reductions of our schematic architectural design drawings with the package?

Answer 9

No architectural drawings should be submitted. Keep in mind that part of the purpose of this exercise is for Commission/Commission's consultants to collaborate with the Design Team. If the design is "complete", then this opportunity would not be available. Please note that this is a condition (see last bullet in Application under "Who is eligible to apply?" (Page ii of v)

- "District must agree to permit the California Energy Commission (Commission) staff to collaborate with the Project Design Team to design a facility that outperforms Title 24, Part 6 by 20% (revisions effective June 1 and October 29, 2001)."

Question 10

Do you need resumes and firm descriptions for the architect and engineers?

Answer 10

Yes. Typically we would expect that the A&E would be the lead and that others such as Mechanical and Electrical, Lighting, etc would be subs. Note in the Application that we are evaluating the TEAM and their understanding of the CHPS principles and their experience in implementing these principles. This is one of the reasons we are requiring that the applicants provide "....the A&E firm's CV, design philosophy, resume/CV's of key individuals involved in the project, and their roles, descriptions, and photographs/graphics of previous similar work." (see page 2 of 5 in the Application part of the Application Package). We are also requiring such information from the Mechanical and Lighting subs; similar information from other subs may be submitted but is not required.